Application Number: 10/685,298 Response Dated: March 1, 2005

Reply to Office Action issued September 1, 2004

Attorney Docket No. 070163-9157-00

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

The following listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1. (Currently Amended) A support cushion comprising:

an elastic core having a first surface, a second surface, and thickness defined by the first surface and the second surface; and

a first cover portion surrounding the elastic core;

a pillow top surface adjacent the first surface of the elastic core, the pillow top surface including a plurality of foam strips; and

a second cover portion at least partially covering the pillow top surface, the second cover portion attached to at least one of the first cover portion and the elastic core.

- 2. (Original) The support cushion of claim 1, wherein the strips are positioned side-by-side to substantially cover the first surface of the elastic core.
- 3. (Original) The support cushion of claim 1, wherein the plurality of strips includes between four and eight strips.
- 4. (Original) The support cushion of claim 1, wherein the strips are separated by a material.
- 5. (Currently Amended) The support cushion of claim 1, further comprising a cover separating wherein at least one of the first and second cover portions separates the strips from the core.
- 6. (Currently Amended) The support cushion of claim 6 claim 5, wherein the second cover portion includes a plurality of sleeves, each sleeve at least partially housing one of the strips.

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7. (Currently Amended) The support cushion of claim 1, further comprising a cover

surrounding the elastic core, wherein the strips being are separated from each other by portions

of the second cover portion.

8. (Original) The support cushion of claim 1, wherein the strips are viscoelastic foam

strips.

9. (Original) The support cushion of claim 1, wherein the lengths of the strips are the

same.

10. (Original) The support cushion of claim 1, wherein the strips include different

hardnesses.

11. (Original) The support cushion of claim 1, wherein the strips have a thickness of

between two and seven centimeters.

12. (Original) The support cushion of claim 1, wherein the elastic core has a greater

hardness than the strips.

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13. (Currently Amended) A pillow top layer for a support cushion having an elastic

core, the elastic core having a length and a width wherein the length is greater than the width, the

pillow top layer comprising:

a plurality of foam strips having a length, a width, and a thickness, the width of

each foam strip is substantially the same as the width of the elastic core and greater than the

length of each foam strip, each of the plurality of foam strips positioned side-by-side and to

define a substantially gapless structure, wherein the combined length of the plurality of strips

being is substantially the same as the length of the elastic core; and

wherein the strips are separated from one another by a layer of material.

14. (Canceled).

15. (Original) The pillow top layer of claim 13, further comprising a cover covering the

elastic core.

16. (Original) The pillow top layer of claim 15, wherein the cover includes a plurality of

sleeves, each sleeve at least partially housing one of the strips.

17. (Original) The pillow top layer of claim 13, wherein the strips are viscoelastic foam

strips.

18. (Original) The pillow top layer of claim 13, wherein the strips include between four

and eight strips.

19. (Original) The pillow top layer of claim 13, wherein the lengths of the strips are the

same.

20. (Original) The pillow top layer of claim 13, wherein the strips have different

hardnesses.

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21. (Original) The pillow top layer of claim 13, wherein the strips have a thickness of between two and seven centimeters.

22. (Original) The pillow top layer of claim 13, wherein the elastic core has a greater hardness than the strips.

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23. (Currently Amended) A support cushion comprising:

an elastic core; and

a pillow top portion adjacent to the core, the pillow top portion comprising a plurality of foam strips positioned side-by-side and separated <u>from one another only</u> by a material to form a non-continuous <u>but gapless</u> layer on top of the elastic core.

- 24. (Original) The support cushion of claim 23, wherein the material separates the strips from the core.
- 25. (Original) The support cushion of claim 23, wherein the material defines a plurality of sleeves, each sleeve housing one of the plurality of strips.
- 26. (Original) The support cushion of claim 23, wherein the material defines between four and eight sleeves.
- 27. (New) The support cushion as claimed in claim 1, wherein the second cover portion is releasably attached to the first cover portion.
- 28. (New) The support cushion as claimed in claim 1, wherein the first and second cover portions are part of the same cover.